

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-46 are pending in the present application. Claims 15-40, 43 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Edgar '414. Claims 44-45 were rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edgar '414. Claims 1-14 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

With reference to the rejection of claims 15-40, 43 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Edgar '414, the reference to Edgar '414 is not believed to be anticipated or make obvious the specific features required by the claimed invention.

Claim 15 relates to a method for correcting image information associated with a plurality of information channels. As required by claim 15, the method comprises the steps of obtaining image information from a first information channel which is a primary information channel to be reconstructed; obtaining image information from at least one additional information channel, wherein at least a portion of the information from the at least one additional information channel includes information associated with the information obtained from the first channel; transforming only the image information obtained from the at least one additional information channel to obtain transformed image information associated with the first channel; and combining at least a portion of the transformed image information associated with the first information channel with at least a portion of the information from the first information channel to obtain corrected image information associated with the first information channel. In accordance with claim 15, the corrected image information defines a reconstructed information channel that corresponds to the primary information channel.

As described on page 5 of the present application, in a feature of the present invention, the method comprises obtaining information from a primary information channel to be reconstructed, and obtaining information from additional information channels. As an example, reference is made to page 14 of the present application which describes that in a feature of the present invention, a processor filters image information to remove noise from a current non-primary information channel more than the information from a primary color channel. In a preferred embodiment, the information associated with the primary color channel is not filtered at all. This assures that during the filtering process, a significant amount of real image information is maintained rather than being lost due to noise filtering. Reference is also made to Fig. 4 and page 16 of the present

application which illustrates an example of the method of the present invention, wherein a primary information channel "A" is reconstructed, and non-primary channels "B_f" and "C_f" are not used. As described in the second paragraph of page 16 of the present application, a primary image channel is a channel for which reconstruction is desired, and each matrix operation produces a reconstructed information channel corresponding to the primary information channel.

Edgar '414 discloses a concept wherein a plurality of segments of each of the image channels are transformed from a spatial domain to a frequency domain. Edgar '414 is not believed to show the combination of features as required by claim 15, in which there is a relationship between the primary information channel and the additional information channels in that the image information that is transformed from the at least one additional information channel is associated with the first channel. Also, the transformation occurs only with respect to the additional image information channel. Thereafter, at least a portion of the transformed image information associated with the first information channel is combined with at least a portion of the information from the first information channel to obtain corrected image information associated with the first information channel. This corrected image information defines a reconstructed information channel that corresponds to the primary or first information channel. The combination with regard to the interrelationship between the information channels, the transformation of only the information from the at least one additional information channel, and the production of corrected image information associated with the first information channel (which defines a reconstructed information channel that corresponds to the primary information channel) is not believed to be shown in Edgar '414.

Accordingly, the reference to Edgar '414 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the features of claim 15.

Claim 16-24 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 15 and set forth additional unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied reference. Therefore, these claims are also believed to be allowable.

The same arguments as noted above with respect to claim 15 also apply to claim 25 which relates to a digital file tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium. Therefore, based on the reasons noted above with respect to claim 15, claim 25 is also believed to be allowable over Edgar '414.

Claims 26-34 depend from claim 25 and set forth additional unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied references. Therefore, these claims are also believed to be allowable.

Claim 35 relates to an image processing system that requires that a program includes instructions to enable transformation of image information from a primary channel and additional information channels in the manner noted above with respect to claim 15. For the reasons noted with respect to claims 15 and 25, the reference to Edgar '414 is not believed to show or suggest the features of claim 35.

Claims 36-40, 43 and 46 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 35 and set forth additional unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggest in the applied reference to Edgar '414. Therefore, these claims are also believed to be allowable.

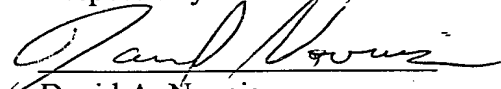
Accordingly, the reference to Edgar '414 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by claims 15-40, 43 and 46.

Referring to the rejection of claims 44-45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edgar '414, the reference to Edgar '414 is cited against the present claims based on 35 USC 102(e), and the reference is being applied under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in an obviousness rejection. As such, and in view of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) as amended by the American Inventor's Protection Act (AIPA) (enacted November 29, 1999), the reference to Edgar '414 is not believed to qualify as prior art in obviousness rejections under 35 U.S.C. (103). The present application was filed on June 28, 2000 and thus was filed after the November 29, 1999 enactment date of the statute. It is noted that the inventions of the present application and the applied reference to Edgar '414 were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, commonly owned by Applied Science Fiction. Therefore, Edgar '414 should be removed as prior art in this rejection.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 44-45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is submitted that the inventions defined by each of claims 15-46 are patentable, and a favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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